



JUNE 2021

VOLUME 18, ISSUE 06

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FROM THE EDITOR!

Loyal readers!

Before we begin this issues high adventures, as promised, answers to last month's geographic puzzlers.

- 1: Old Reliable geyser, Yellowstone National Park. Wyoming.
2. Grand Tetons National Park, also Wyoming.
3. Craters Of the Moon National Preserve, Idaho. This one was a hard one!

Each correct answer is good for five (5) RCT points. To get them, find KR7W and ask for your points... He'll be glad to help! (LOL)... With the collected points, you will be able to lord it over your less geographical savvy friends...

So on to the new months issue. As some of you have noticed:



THE BARK IS LATE!!

Give yourself an additional 10 RCT points for noticing that...

So, you ask, "What happened!?! Well, it's like this: Here at radio WG7X, which also happens to be "Barkie" central we employ all types of workers in the production of this fine publication.

Management is of, course human, but down in the bowels of the production area, we employ hamsters, rabbits, the occasional owl and a badger who just hangs out down there and refuses to leave.

So, last month, some of you probably noticed that RCT had a bunny hunt at Ft. Defiance park. Of course the bunnies all wanted to go. The hamsters, who are not usually all that sociable, decided that they too, wanted to go.

What could we do? Of course management gave them all permission to go to the bunny hunt.

Problems came up when the hamsters found out that the bunnies were union-ized!

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report.

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Meeting minutes.

Page 10: General
meeting minutes.

This caused an immediate problem for management, because the hamsters went on strike! Management then decided that this would be a great week to disappear for a long enough period that would allow things to die down...

So we (management) went on a road trip, along with most everyone else as it turned out... Following are a few pix of the road trip thru Washington (no pix), Idaho, Utah, and Colorado...

Hopefully, by next month the hamsters will be back in the cellars ready to produce another fun filled edition of the "Loggers Bark".

In the meantime, enjoy some pix of strange landscapes...



Malad Canyon, Idaho. An interesting slot or box canyon right on interstate 84 in Idaho. At the top of the picture you can see the bottom of the highway bridge. Yeah, it was noisy there and hot!

110 Deg F!!



Not too interesting windshield pix of the east side of the sandstone reef that I-70 goes thru in Utah... Just thought I'd throw this one in... Taken by my lovely wife, Sue...



This is the same sandstone reef, looking east at the stone underlying the whiter sandstone reef that was in the last picture. Note the winding I-70 interstate going down to the narrow gap in the stone structures. This was originally part of the “Oregon Trail” and before “improvements” were made, the gap down there was so narrow that a person could stand at the narrowest part and touch each side of the gap with their out stretched arms!

The final widening did not happen until the late 1980’s.

The red colorations come from the iron oxide (rust) in the exposed stone...



Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park.

Top: beginning of the canyon looking roughly south. Canyon floor is from 1700 to 2400 feet below the observation point!



Next is the same canyon at it's beginning looking roughly north. Here you can see that the canyon is much shallower in comparison to the first picture. Either way, I'm not going down there!



Couple of random desert pictures on I-70 heading west.

Nice place to visit, but no one, and I mean no one actually wanted to live here!

Turn up the AC, and lets get going!!





Another random picture of the Utah desert. One tourist (no relation to me) in the pix and a looming storm in the distance!

Make you want to move to Utah, right?

Ok, enough of this fun! I have to go down to the cellars now and cut off the hamsters. There was a keg of hamster beer down there, and they're getting pretty noisy singing union songs and pinching the wait staff! Gotta run now; wish me luck with the union negotiations!

Radio Club of Tacoma**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes****June 2, 2021****Zoom Meeting**

Meeting called to order at 19:03 by President Mike W7XTZ

Officers and Directors Present

President Mike Mikuchonis W7XTZ

Vice President Adam Barbera W2NCC

Secretary Mike Drorbaugh W7MKE

Treasurer Steve Dightman AF7YD

Board Bruce Hanson WE7P

Board Paul Matney W7PFU

Board Verna Lilly KF7SCB

Board Red Cranefield WB7EC

Board Phil Pia K7PIA

Quorum? A quorum was present and 14 people attended all or part of the meeting. The attendance list is attached.

Silent Key or Illness?

It was reported that Juan Robertson KJ7GGB had some health issues he thought were related to his legs but ended up having a pacemaker installed. He is reportedly doing well.

Approval of Minutes of May 5, 2021 RCT BOD meeting: No corrections were offered and without objection the minutes were approved as posted.

Secretary's Report (W7MKE)

Mike-W7MKE reported that all correspondence was routine with just magazines and membership renewals and applications.

Treasurer's Report (AF7YD)

Steve AF7YD reported the Club's total of all accounts as of May 28th was \$XXXXX.

Steve AF7YD submitted two different formats of reports: a P&L statements and a Transaction Detail by Account for the BOD to decide what format they'd like for the future. There was some lively discussion about terminology and proper reporting: i.e. a P&L statement is for a profit making business versus a "Statement of Activity" for a non-profit group; a report more similar to the Transaction Detail report is the correct form for a non-profit. It was stated that

QuickBooks could do either type report and we should change to proper non-profit reporting. The BOD directed the Treasurer to continue reporting financials in detail.

Committee / Reports

Membership (KJ7GGB)

George K7GRS reported there are 263 members now.

Library (AD7AV)

George K7GRS reported that he and Doug AD7AV and have been tracking the donated books for the lending library but other than that not much is going on.

Training (AD7AB)

Stephen AD7AB reported he's trying to get organized for an October in club training start.

Dave Brooks N7HT is waiting for Stephen before starting up a General/Extra training class.

VE (AC7WW)

John Clarke AC7WW reported that on Tuesday, May 11 your VE Team hosted 14 candidates at two drive-in test sessions. Ten new Technicians joined the Amateur Service, three upgraded to General and one upgraded to Extra. We tested candidates from Auburn, Federal Way, Seattle, Orting, Olalla, Lakewood, Renton, Port Orchard, Tacoma and a husband and wife from Selah.

Thanks to the following for their service and time: Jan K7HTU, Rich KK7VH, Stephen AD7AB and Phil K7PIA.

The next scheduled test session is Tuesday, June 8th, 2021.

Info Tech and Website (WB4SPB)

Randy WB4SPB reports: All systems nominal. Randy has been doing system backups and is installing Field Day logging software and has updated the Flex with its latest software. He continues to do minor updates to the website primarily some changes to the club's governance documents location.

HF Operations (K7PIA)

Phil K7PIA reported all operating stations are operating with exception of some computer/transceiver hook up with the station in the Lou Room. Al N7OMS requested the HF committee begin to spend some of the HF budget to move the VHF station upstairs to the HF room from downstairs. The Treasurer indicated there was no current HF budget. This would involve changing the coax from downstairs to upstairs and at that time installing grounding and lightning arrestors. This requires coax, connectors, outside coax box and lightning arrestors, etc. Red WB7EC Moved to authorize \$500 budget for supplies to move the VHF station. Motion was seconded and discussion occurred regarding some clarification of how it was to be done and components to be used to accomplish the task. **The Motion Passed.**

Repeater Ops (N7OMS)

Al N7OMS reported that the DNR is requiring a new lease agreement for Crawford Mountain Repeater with technical documents and documentation from an ECOM group indicating we allow fair use of the repeater by those groups. Mike W7MKE and Al will work on completing the application.

The Bates repeater has been moved into the Club for service and as a training aid.

A new member Dan Ransom N7MM expressed interest in helping with the repeaters and he has worked on GE Master II repeaters before.

Facilities Management (W2NCC)

Adam W2NCC indicated that the lawn at the club hasn't been maintained lately and Adam is looking into that. We may need a new person to do the lawn. Adam is working on a proposal to repair the handicap ramp.

Property Management (WB7EC)

Red WB7EC reported that last month PMT took in \$XXX.

Museum (KR7W)

Al N7OMS reports all quiet in the museum lately

Weds Workshop (WB4SPB)

Randy WB4SPB reported that June's meeting will be about Field Day preparation.

General Meeting (KF7SCB)

Verna KF7SCB reports that the program will be about Field Day. Hopefully a discussion about what works/what doesn't.

Unfinished Business

Report of Ad Hoc Committee:

Mike W7XTZ and Randy WB4SPB indicated the committee was looking for people to take over Salmon Run, Ballot mailing, and membership renewal mailings. Prior work was in figuring out specifically what needs to be done. Future efforts will be in trying to be more proactive in recruiting helpers to do that work. Next meeting is Friday June 11th.

Proper Use of PMT Donations: In other unfinished business the BOD decided to only post PMT listings at the Club-house or on the member's only portion of our website in order to comply with tax rules for non-profit's fund raising.

New Business

Is it time to open the club? (Adam-W2NCC)

Government Rules seem to be changing frequently so it's somewhat difficult to know what is allowed, but now the requirement is that social gatherings are limited to 10 people indoors and 50 outdoors. It was felt that compliance with this would be difficult or impossible without a Sargent-at-arms to enforce the rules. Rather than have to have a Covid Cop a **motion** was made and seconded to table discussion of opening the club until the July BOD meeting. After discussion the **motion passed on a 6-3 vote**. We will maintain a restricted club for now. It is expected that the State may open up at the end of June and we can hopefully open the Club for all at that time. Should the BOD initiate a notice of Bylaws Amendment to provide the means to remedy the legal infraction of (online) meetings during Covid-19 and to provide flexibility for potential future events.

(George-K7GRS)

There was discussion about whether the Club was in violation of current laws regarding on line meetings and whether we should amend our bylaws to put us into compliance. George has some documentation relevant to this issue and made it available to the BOD for review.

Activity Reports and Discussion Topics

Explore adding remote teaching to RCT's in-person classes. (Steve AF7YD)

Steve and Stephen AD7AB discussed the possibility of adding a Zoom Type training to our in class training. There was considerable discussion about the pros and cons of doing this. What was lacking was someone to actually do the training this way. Once a team is in place, they can come to the BOD for permission or needed resources to do that type of training.

Announcements

📅 RCT Bunny Hunt June 6. Sign up beginning 09:30 at Ft. Nisqually Parking Lot.

📅 Chehalis Valley Amateur Radio Society Tailgate Swap Meet 7-24-21 09:00 at SW Washington

Fairgrounds Chehalis, WA (Contact John K7OSK @ boatanchor.com or 360-273-5929 or cvars.org

Adjournment at: 21:12 local

Respectfully Submitted,

Mike Drorbaugh RCT Secretary

Radio Club of Tacoma

General Meeting Minutes June 12, 2021

Zoom Meeting

Officers and Directors Present

President Mike Mikuchonis w7XTZ

Vice President Adam Barbera W2NCC

Secretary Mike Drorbaugh W7MKE

Treasurer Steve Dightman AF7YD

Board Verna Lilly KF7SCB

Board Paul Matney K7PFU

Board Red Cranefield WB7EC

Meeting called to order at 13:30 local time by President Mike W7XTZ

Quorum: A quorum was not present (10% of membership needed). 20 people attended all or part of the meeting and the attendance list is attached.

Welcome and Self-Introductions

No new members or visitors identified

Health and Welfare/Silent Key & Illness

Nothing reported

Secretary's Report (Mike W7MKE)

Mike W7MKE reports nothing special on incoming mail. Mike indicated that he'd reported to the BOD that he was going to take up the challenge of communicating with newly licensed hams. He receives a listing each month or so from the ARRL Western Washington Club Coordinator of new hams. Mike pared down the list to those he considers within the RCT "service area" and sent them a letter inviting them to visit at RCT. He encouraged all members to be on the lookout for new visitors and to let Mike know if they encountered any so Mike can keep a tally to see if the letters are bearing fruit. He will reevaluate the letter writing campaign after 6 months or so to see if it is worthwhile.

Treasurer's Report (Steve AF7YD)

Steve AF7YD reported that Mike's W7XTZ check for his Presidential raise is in the mail. In other business he reports all bills are paid including recently re-subscribed to Zoom. This year so far we've spent about \$XXXX more than income. Through PMT's efforts we've received about \$XXXX thus far this year showing the value of PMT for RCT income. For those wishing more details on financials, please contact Steve directly.

Committee / Activity Reports

Membership (Juan KJ7GGB) George K7GRS indicated that this is typically a slow time of year for membership and it stands at 263.

Training (Stephen AD7AB)

Stephen AD7AB reported that the Washington State Fair will be open this year and as information comes in he'll report further on that. He hopes to have Technician Classes in the club beginning in October. He'll publish more about both items on our website.

VE Report (John AC7WW)

John submitted the following written report:

We had a drive-in testing session June 8th in the clubhouse parking lot. Three VE's were in the parking lot and four VE's in the clubhouse grading and doing the paper work. We had 10 candidates with 16 exams graded. Six new Technicians joined the Amateur Service, two candidates upgraded to General. One candidate passed elements 2 & 3 to become a General Class, and another candidate passed element 2, 3 and 4 to become an Extra class.

Thanks to the following for their service and time.

Leonard KA7NWF Jan, K7HTU

Rich KK7VH Stephen, AD7AB

Phillip, K7PIA Whit, KG7LNZ

The next scheduled test session is Tuesday, July 13, 2021 at 7:00 PM

HF Operations (Phil K7PIA)

No report. Mike W7XTZ indicated that at the RCT BOD Phil reported all stations OK.

Repeater Operations (Al N7OMS)

Mike W7MKE reported that Al N7OMS and he were working on the DNR Lease for Crawford Mountain. Al has moved a GE Master II repeater into the clubhouse for repair and training purposes and the plan is to move that to the Bates site. One of our new members has identified himself to Al as being interested in working with the repeaters and he apparently has experience with the GE Master II type.

IT Report (Randy WB4SPB)

All clubhouse systems are operating nominally. At the top of each website page there is a Field Day tab with information on how to operate individually and also for the Club. So lots of Field Day information including links to resources about Field Day.

Museum (Rich KR7W)

No report. (Secretary's note: Rich KR7W is moving out of area very soon and will not be doing much of anything for the Museum or the club in the meantime. A big thank you to Rich for all his past activities and contributions to the Radio Club of Tacoma, you'll be sorely missed.)

Property Management (Red WB7EC)

Red WB7EC reported that last month \$XXX came in from only three items. PMT's biggest problem is that there is a lot of stuff to show but no venue to show it right now. We need to discontinue showing our excess equipment in the BARK (Tax issue). But if you have interest in Radio Club of Tacoma General Meeting Minutes June 12, 2021 Zoom Meeting something or need something please contact Red or any other property management person to see if it might be available.

Randy WB4SPB has created a webpage called "Membership Perks" available only to those who can log in. At that page there is a list of equipment that is available.

Facilities Management (W2NCC)

Adam W2NCC reported that there were some issues with our phone line and fiber optic was installed to take care of that issue. So far that new fiber is used for our land line only but in future may be able to get high speed internet.

Our former lawn care person moved out of the county so we need a new lawn care person. John Marsden KI7YRC seems to have taken this project on.

There was a small work party today at the club. Some hedge trimming and moving some of the tower sections by the shed.

Adam is going to maintain a list of items that need to be done and will organize work parties in the future to take care of some of those issues.

4th Wed. Night Activity (Randy WB4SPB)

Randy will have a session on Field Day message traffic and if time allows other FD issues.

BARK Editor (Gary WG7X)

Gary WG7X reported that he needs contributions to the *BARK*; it's been kind of skimpy lately so help him out.

Ad Hoc Committee on Fall Activities (Mike W7XTZ)

Mike W7XTZ reported that this committee's work includes finding helpers for Salmon Run, Election Ballots and Membership renewals. They're making progress on exactly how to do the various jobs and will shortly have a written document on those tasks. They are looking for people to do some of the printing.

Unfinished Business

Nothing offered

New Business

Nothing offered

Program (Verna KF7SCB)

Verna KF7SCB had a PowerPoint presentation about Field Day

☐ Field Day is June 26-27

- Adam W2NCC is going to set up a Zoom Meeting
- Patrick K7DKP (?) will host Discord (the social media gathering)
- Randy WB4SPB will act as net control for message handling

☐ A Field Day Map showing sections and lots of resources is available at W7DK.org

☐ June 23 (4th Wednesday Night) Randy will cover message traffic

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☐ Logging tips

- Complements of ARES SEC (Ratpack) <https://sec-ares.groups.io/g/main/message/2733>
- N3FJP help page: <http://n3fjp.com/help/>

Show and Tell

Mike W7XTZ has an 88XL black ink cartridge for HP printers available for free if you can use it.

Doug AB7DG got an Anytone 878 2M/440 HT that can be modify it to use on 220 MHz also. Doug modified his and was able to use it on 220. He offered to help anyone who wants to modify their Anytone 878 for 220 MHz.

Tuning and Traffic

Gary WG7X reports 10 M open every afternoon. Sometimes he can contact all over the country but mostly California.

Right now there is a June VHF contest going on.

Announcements

Chehalis Valley Amateur Radio Society Tailgate Swap Meet 7-24-21 09:00 at SW Washington Fairgrounds Chehalis, WA (Contact John K7OSK @ boatanchor.com or 360-273-5929 or cvars.org)

Paul W7PFU reported that SeaPac will open next year 2022. Get your reservations soon because hotels fill up quickly.

John N7TES reported that Salmoncon XVI 2021 (a QRP interest group) will meet at Valley Camp in North Bend, WA July 9th. <https://sites.google.com/site/pnwqrpgroup/salmoncon>

Meeting Adjourned at 14:30

Respectfully Submitted,

Mike Drorbaugh – W7MKE

RCT Secretary



For you tech-types, here's a hand-dandy reference guide on fuses, really handy for Independence day! Boy Howdy!

THE CLUB LINEUP

CLUB OFFICERS

President: Mike Mikuchonis –W7XTZ w7xtz@w7dk.org

Vice Pres: Adam Barbera, W2NCC - w2ncc@w7dk.org

Secretary: Mike Drorbaugh W7MKE - w7mke@w7dk.org

Treasurer: Steve Dightman, AF7YD - af7yd@w7dk.org

5 BOARD MEMBERS

Bruce Hanson, WE7P - we7p@w7dk.org

Paul Matney, W7PFU - w7pfu@w7dk.org

Verna Lilly KF7SBC- KF7SCB@w7dk.org

Red Cranefield, WB7EC - wb7ec@w7dk.org

Phil Pia, K7PIA - k7pia@w7dk.org

THE *LOGGER'S BARK* is the *OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA*... and is published by RCT, PO Box 11188, Tacoma, WA 98411. The Radio Club of Tacoma is a non-profit corporation as defined by law. All proceeds will be used exclusively for charitable and educational purposes. The Radio Club of Tacoma's Club House is located at 1249 Washington St, Tacoma, WA 98405, phone: 253-759-2040.

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The Fine Print: The *Logger's Bark* is published once a month for the membership of The Radio Club of Tacoma or interested ham radio enthusiasts. The *Bark* is delivered by PDF file on the club's website: www.w7dk.org.

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MEMBERSHIP INFO: FULL (licensed) and ASSOCIATE (non licensed) membership is \$35 per calendar year or \$30 for Licensed Seniors (65 and over). Licensed family members at same address pay \$20 each for the first two and are free for the third, fourth, and so on. Full-time students, licensed or non licensed, up to age 25 are \$20 per year. Note: fees are applicable for the calendar year: Jan to Dec. Lifetime membership is 20 times the yearly fee you are eligible for. Lifetime memberships are calculated based on the FULL and ASSOCIATE rates.

www.w7dk.org [LINK] - For the latest and most current information on events and activities, visit the Radio Club of Tacoma Website.

RADIO CLUB REPEATERS

Central Tacoma: 147.280 + PL=103.5

Crawford Mountain 147.380 + PL=103.5 (E of Olympia © 1500 ft ASL)

Central Tacoma: 440.625 + PL=103.5

North Tacoma: 145.21 – PL=141.3